

Figures of Prominence
in the News of the
Day—Makers of History
at Home and
Abroad

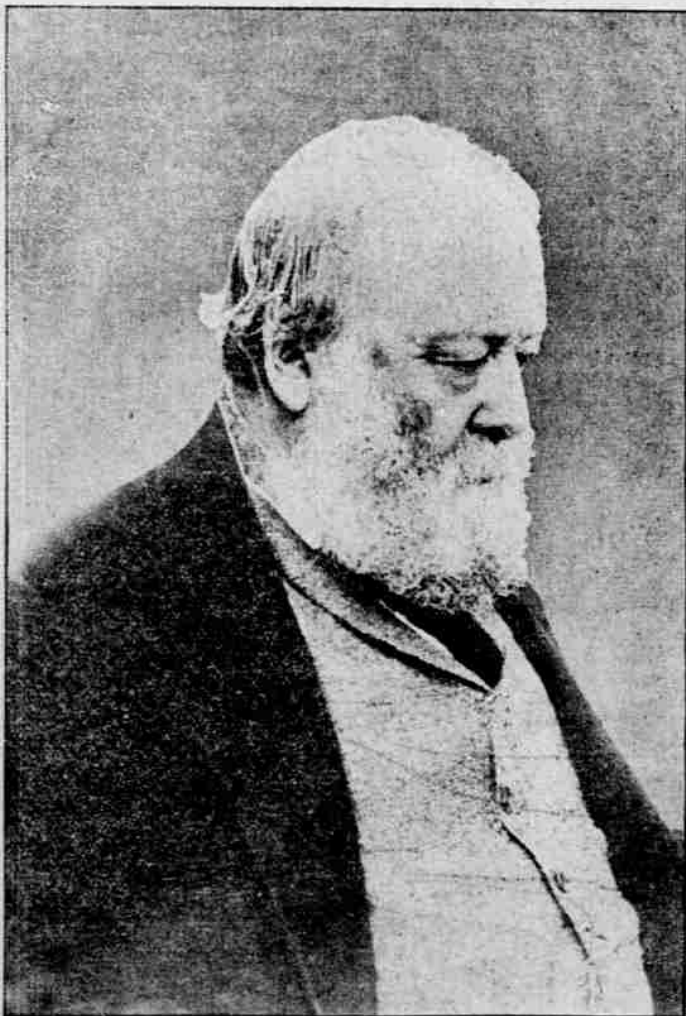
MEN OF THE WEEK

Stories and Sketches of
the Leaders of To-
day in Thought and
Action Here and
Elsewhere

RESIGNATION OF LORD SALISBURY.

The week just closed was a notable one in English politics. Lord Salisbury, premier of Great Britain since 1885, resigned his exalted position last Monday, to retire permanently from politics. Mr. Arthur Balfour was al-

most immediately appointed to fill the vacancy. Robert Arthur Talbot Gascoyne-Cecil, third Marquis of Salisbury, has been a prominent figure in British political life for the last forty-five years. He



Ex-Premier SALISBURY.

SENOR GONZALO QUESADA AND THE METROPOLITAN CLUB.

The past week is bound to be a red-letter one in the diplomatic and social career in this city of Senor Gonzalo Quesada, minister from the Republic of Cuba to the United States. Senor Quesada, after having a former application for membership in the Metropolitan Club rejected, has now been taken into full membership in the organization and accorded all the privileges of the noted club.

Several years ago, before the Spanish-American war, when Senor Quesada was a member of the Cuban Junta in Washington, he was an applicant for membership in the club. His application, after remaining, it is said, on the waiting list for some time, was rejected.

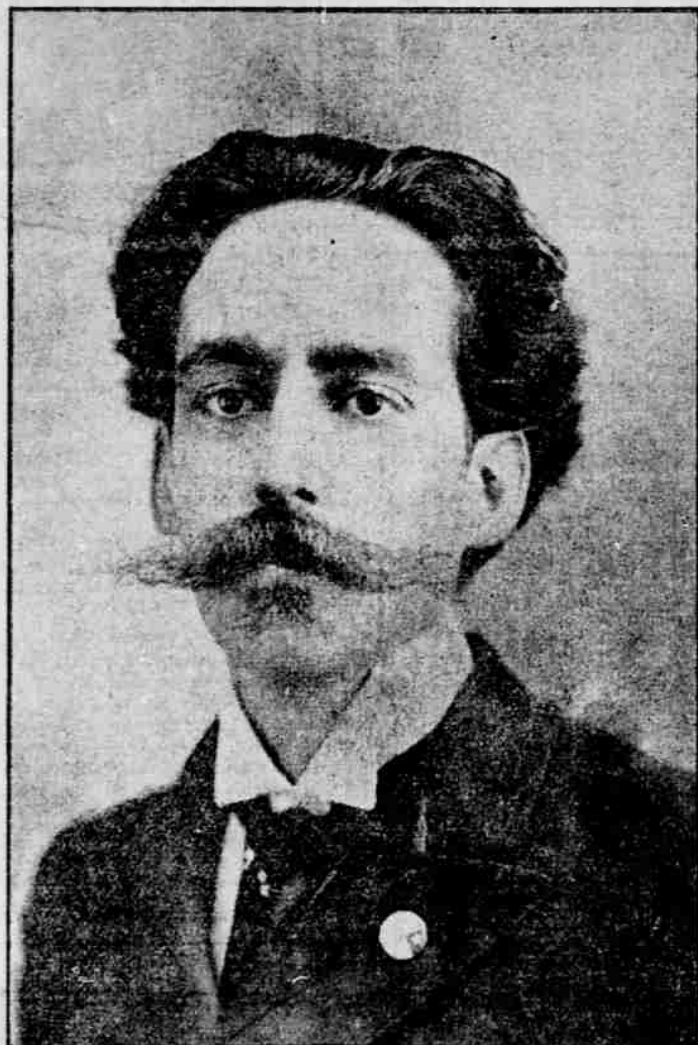
This action on the part of the club caused some considerable comment. The statement was made upon behalf of the club that Senor Quesada was rejected because of the fact that he did not have official standing as the representative of a foreign country to the United States. The Cuban Junta was, of course, unofficial, and as long as Cuba was under the Spanish crown the representatives of the insurgents in the island had no official standing with this Government. Ambassadors and ministers duly accredited to this country and stationed in this city are invited to become honorary members of the club. This is in strict accordance with the constitution and by-laws of the organization. Immediately upon the presentation to the State Department, a short while ago, of his credentials as Cuban minister, a cordial invitation was extended to Senor Quesada to become a member of the club.

There was considerable speculation as to whether Senor Quesada, having once been rejected when he was an applicant for membership, would accept the invitation to become a member, now that the cause he represented here for several years has fully succeeded and he is the duly accredited representative of the government, which is now a fact. The situation was, however, fully explained to the minister. He has decided to accept the invitation now extended to him, and has qualified as a member of the club.

Senor Quesada has called the attention of President Palma to the reported utterances of General Bragg and asked for instructions. Until he receives these he will take no step in the matter. Ordinarily the incident would be dismissed

with nothing more serious than an admonition to the offender to be more careful in the future, but in the case of Cuba the relations are so peculiar and almost paternal that should President

Palma decide to make a protest there could hardly be any other way out of the dilemma than through the recall of General Bragg, and the appointment of some other man to the place.



Minister QUESADA.

NEW TRUST FIGHTER

Representative Charles E. Littlefield of Rockland, Me., who so ably represents the Second Maine district, and who rose so phenomenally in the halls of Congress, outstripping, in the brief space of three years, Dingler, his predecessor; Blaine, Hale, and Reed, has suddenly attracted national attention by his entry with firm tread upon the political stage as the coming trust fighter. Upon Mr. Littlefield, it is said, the Administration relies to frame and present into the next Congress a law for the regulation of trusts in the United States.

Although on vacation and resting, the famous Maine man is restless to be back again in the harness. He is a



Representative LITTLEFIELD.

prodigious worker, and his wonderful physique stands him in good stead this summer. Taxed with one of the most important tasks of a generation, the trust-regulating bill, he has consented to stump his native State in the coming campaign, beginning on August 20 and closing late in September; then dashing across the continent to California, where he will make several speeches in the campaign.

The public forms a variety of opinions and estimates of this giant of the East, who stood against his party in Congress, and, by his eloquence, his magnetism, grasp of widely ranged subjects, doggedness, and, as his enemies said, "bullheadedness," pushed himself into the front rank of the statesmen of the country.

Successor to Dingler, he was scarcely expected to fill that gentleman's shoes, but in three years he has outshone him, at least, for the present.

At home, in Rockland, his neighbors know him better and love him more, no doubt, than his colleagues in Washington. There he is plain Charles Littlefield, jovial, democratic, greeting his friends and "jolly" with them as if he had not been made one of the Administration's triumphs—Roosevelt, Knox, Littlefield. He is a big man at home, and has been a big man in Maine for many years. He is big in stature—six feet two inches—big in voice, big in the way of handling life's affairs, big in his views. There are some who think that he always has a chip on his shoulder and is going to jump on the neck of someone. They mistake his earnestness and zeal for pugnacity. He has never allowed himself to be used as a door mat.

There has never been a breath of suspicion against him while in Maine; neither will there be at Washington, his friends say. He has lived a busy, upright life among the people, and is their idol today. Winning his way unaided from the carpenter's bench, educating himself, the laurels he won and is winning are truly deserved.

His is a well-ordered life. The manner of conducting his law business is illustrative of his plan of living. In his office system is everywhere. His offices are big, broad, and sweeping, typical of the occupant. The sign beneath the front window is simple—only one word—"Littlefield."

Charles Littlefield is industrious, responsible, and true. Work has no terrors for him—has never had from the days when, as a tall, lank youth, he stood at the carpenter's bench and earned enough money to fit himself for the law.

Littlefield is not only a temperate man, but a teetotaler and a firm advocate of prohibition. His temperance is a matter of taste and election with him, the outgrowth of the natural bent of a healthy mind and body. He never smokes, but enjoys the smoke of a good cigar, and will join in the jollities of his bibulous friends with the zeal that he displays in everything.

The Bible and Shakespeare he has at his finger tips. In fact, in his early career in this section of Maine, they used to term him the "Biblical orator." He can reel off Shakespeare by the yard and never misquote. Thackeray, Scott, Dickens, and Burns are his favorite au-

thors. He is a great reader of history and his memory for dates and events is phenomenal. His residence here he has a big library of well-thumbed volumes.

Mr. Littlefield has one failing—some might say—love of good horses. He keeps several good ones in his stables, and when he is on the road behind one he takes nobody's dust.

Overwork in his first term in Congress impaired his vigorous health and he bought a thoroughbred saddle mare, Janita, upon whose back he could be seen any day, rain or shine, during the last session. He frequently was seen with Roosevelt dashing across country. This exercise, Mr. Littlefield says, has restored him to perfect health, and today he weighs 185 pounds.

He believes that agriculture is one of the noblest sciences in the world and near his residence has a three-acre lot which he religiously cultivates with his own hands every year. To see him clad in blue jeans and wearing a 10-cent straw hat, weeding his garden or trimming his flower beds, is to know that he is a great lover of nature. He is no novice, either, for he was brought up on a farm and can talk interestingly on scientific farming, and is frequently asked to make an address to the strangers.

Congressman Littlefield is strictly a home man. All his spare time he devotes to his family, which consists of his wife, a modest, retiring woman, a daughter, Caroline A., now in her eighteenth year, and a son, Charles W., a senior at Yale and one of the best athletes in the university. The father and son are great chums, and when the father returns home from Congress and the boy from Yale, they have great times together riding, driving and attending baseball games, of which the Representative has been passionately fond ever since his son got on the varsity team at Yale. The son plays on a local nine in vacation and there is no more enthusiastic "fan" at these games than his father. The son resembles the father in features and in general make-up. He believes in hard work in the study room and in outdoor sports. The son is a high stand man at the university and gives promise of a bright future.

A trait which endears Mr. Littlefield to Rockland people is his approachability, his genuine friendship, and his honesty. No one is too lowly, who addresses him upon the streets, but that he will stop and shake hands with him, cordially addressing him by his first name. He rarely forgets a face or a name. Frequently some islander, who knew him when he was a carpenter, will recall the past, whereupon he will enter upon a lively discussion of the time and the events that transpired.

MR. CORTELYOU AS ACTING PRESIDENT.

For the first time in its history as a republic, this country practically has two Presidents at the head of its affairs. While President Roosevelt is seeking

to a certain extent a much-needed rest and simultaneously fulfilling the duties of his high office at his home in Oyster Bay, the "Summer Capital," Secretary George B. Cortelyou is holding forth at the temporary White House in this city.



Secretary CORTELYOU.

CHINA'S MOST POPULAR DIPLOMAT CALLED TO OTHER DUTIES.

Sincere regret has been manifested in official and social circles throughout the National Capital over the recall, in the early part of the week, of Mr. Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese minister to this country. During his stay in this city

Mr. Wu has made himself exceedingly popular by his broad and unbiased knowledge of things both Oriental and Occidental, and his inimitable wit. His recall has been a welcome guest in many of the best homes, not only in Washington,

but in the other great cities of the country.

But, as Mr. Wu himself says, he has been permitted to remain in Washington considerably longer than the time usually allotted to persons filling similar posts for his country, and consequently his recall was not entirely unexpected. When he will leave Washington has not yet been determined, so far as is known, and he is merely awaiting information and instructions from his home government. His successor, Sir Liang Chen Tung, was the chief secretary of the mission accredited by China to the coronation of King Edward.

It is, however, a matter of considerable satisfaction to his vast host of friends in this country that Minister Wu has not lost caste in the slightest degree by his recall. On the contrary, the work mapped out for him by his government is of the highest importance, as it bears directly upon the establishment of more amicable and broad relations between China and the other world powers. In the words of the imperial decree concerning his new work, he is, with the assistance of one other official of his government, to "draw up and report a digest of the laws of various Western countries, such as may with propriety be incorporated into the laws of China for the better progress of Chinese relations."

Mr. Wu has been at this Capital since April, 1897. His relations with the Administration of President McKinley and Roosevelt have been of the most cordial character. The ordinary term of ministers in Chinese diplomatic circles is three years, and they are not reappointed. Mr. Wu's term of service, however, has been continued indefinitely from time to time. This occasioned not a little surprise at times on account of his extremely pro-foreign attitude during the Boxer revolt.

The reactionaries who controlled the court during 1900 were decidedly hostile to the minister, notwithstanding the friendly attitude of the late Li Hung Chang, because Mr. Wu, appreciating the grave situation of his country, zealously labored to induce the powers to promptly send relief to the besieged legations in Peking.

The minister insisted from the time Peking was isolated that the foreign envoys were safe, and his faith supported him even when practically all of the officials here had given up hope. To him Secretary Hay intrusted the message to Minister Conger, which was de-

(Continued on Ninth Page.)



Minister WU.

VENICE, QUEEN OF THE ADRIATIC : DESTRUCTION SAID TO BE IMPENDING OVER THE CITY

(Continued From First Page.)

atic Sea. The population in 1890 amounted to 158,000, and the 15,000 palaces and houses, built on piles, are about six and one half miles in circumference.

The numerous streets or canals are crossed by stone bridges built so low that only small boats can pass beneath them. The Grand Canal, the main artery of traffic, resembles an S in shape, and is fully two miles in length, with an average depth of sixteen feet. It is crossed by three bridges, and the handsome houses and magnificent palaces rising on its banks have styled it the street of the Nobili, the ancient aristocracy of Venice.

No Love For Steamers.

Of late years small steamers have been plying on the Grand Canal, much to the displeasure of the Venetians, who, like their European neighbors, are

content with the customs of their ancestors.

Venice is the one of all cities where the march of civilization, in its twentieth century meaning, should be halted. Improvements to the city that might even be of benefit in one way or another to the populace, would take away the tone of the fascinating surroundings, which hold the stranger spellbound, and disturb the solitude that prevails.

The industry of Venice is practically confined to shipbuilding, the making of cotton, torpedoes, and art objects for its continual invasion of strangers. The Venetian glass industry, of very ancient origin, is still carried on to a great extent, and the factories are visited with much interest.

Skill of the Gondoliers.

For transportation one is wholly dependent upon boats, and the skill displayed by the boatmen in handling the long gondolas around sharp corners and crowded canals cannot fail to be recognized by the passenger. Boats used for

carrying freight, produce and refuse are heavy and cumbersome, but those for the accommodation of passengers are light, shapely and comfortable, with leather cushions and neat trimmings. The hotels have especially commodious gondolas conveying guests to and from the station. Many of the private gondolas are handsomely constructed and upholstered.

These craft, which take the place of cabs in Venice, were first heard of in a document of 1094, and are painted black in conformity with a law passed in the fifteenth century. Their stands are at different heights and the railroad station, and many are always found waiting at the Molo, in front of the Ducal Palace. The fare is moderate, but varies according to the time the gondola is used and the number of rowers. For a gondola seating from one to four persons, with one rower, for the first hour, the modest sum of 20 cents is charged, each additional half hour 10 cents, besides a small fee which is always exacted.

The rower himself is hailed as "poppe," from the poppa on which he stands in the stern. To counterbalance his weight is the heavy indented iron prow, or ferro, resembling a hammer, used also as a measure of the height of the bridges, which cannot be passed unless the ferro, the highest part of the craft, clears them.

The Grand Canal by Moonlight.

The visitor is fortunate, indeed, if during his stay in Venice there are bright, moonlight nights. Truly fortunate, for if he thinks the days pleasant the nights are doubly so.

There is no sight in the world that is more beautiful or impressive than the Grand Canal by moonlight.

Switzerland has its lofty snow-crowned Alps, which impress the traveler with their grandeur; Norway has its dark, silent fjords, which seem to permeate the very atmosphere about them with a sense of weirdness and solitude; and Alaska has its great Mt. McKinley, whose awful power and majesty defy description.

But it is the Grand Canal of Venice, with its rippling, moonlit waters; bor-

dered by its tall, stately buildings, once white, now blackened with age; dotted with its lantern-bedecked fleet of gondolas, and pulsing with the soft music of the serenaders, that burns with the most indelible force into the memory of the visitor.

The Piazza of St. Mark, an enormous square paved with marble, affords the most striking evidence of the departed glory of Venice. It is inclosed on three sides by imposing buildings, blackened with age and the elements, under which are attractive shops. This spacious court is a center for all who wish to enjoy the summer air and the exquisite music of the military band on summer evenings.

A large flock of pigeons gives life to the piazza. It was an old custom to send out pigeons from the churches on Palm Sunday, and for years they have nestled in the nooks of the surrounding buildings. At one time they were fed at public expense, but are now dependent upon those who frequent the piazza, where, for a fraction of a cent, grain or corn may be bought from the various loungers. This manner of feeding

them has so tamed them that they will cluster around one and eat from the hand.

It is on the east side of this magnificent square that the Cathedral of St. Mark stands. A little off to one corner, on a smaller piazza, known as the Piazza della Salute, is the Ducal Palace, or Palazzo della Doge. It was in the south-eastern corner of the main square, directly in front of the Cathedral and at the entrance of the Piazzetta, that the historic Campanile stood.

The Palace of the Doges.

The Palace of the Doges said to have been founded about 811, has been destroyed five times and as often erected in grander style. It was here that the courts and legislative body of the republic held their sessions, and the student of ancient history finds much of interest here.

The palace is also interesting by reason of the fact that it is here that the scene of the famous trial in Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" is laid. Among

other attractions of the place are numerous works of art, both in oil and marble.

The Bridge of Sighs.

Connecting the criminal prison with the palace is the famous Bridge of Sighs. The place received its name from sounds heard almost constantly that resemble sighs and the shrieks of lost souls. These noises are caused by the passage of air currents through the place that came up from the damp dungeons far below. Too much sentiment has no doubt been wasted upon this present structure, and probably no prisoner has crossed it whose name is worth remembering or whose fate is deserving of sympathy.

There are, of course, libraries, palaces, and galleries in abundance which are well worth visiting, but whether the visit to Venice be of long or short duration the two that make the most pleasure in a gondola on the canals, the novelty and comfort of the craft, together with the unique surroundings, affording an opportunity, than which there is no better, for perfect recreation.